



ARIZONA COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING

Commission Meeting

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Department of Economic Security

Director's Office Conference Room

1717 West Jefferson Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Michael Traylor, Co-Chair, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH); Melanie Starns (Alternate), Co-Chair, Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES); Karen Hellman (Alternate), Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Sean Price (Alternate), Arizona Department of Veteran Services (ADVS); Darlene Newsom, United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM); Terri Leveton, Halo of Hope Foundation; David Sherman, The Salvation Army, White Mountain Outpost; Robert Halliday, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS); Ted Williams, Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation (ABC); Brian Spicker, Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW) and Jenifer Thornton, City of Sierra Vista.

Commissioners Absent:

Clarence H. Carter, Co-Chair, Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES); Charles Ryan, Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Will Humble, Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS); Colonel Joey Strickland, Arizona Department of Veteran's Services (ADVS); Frank Migali, Arizona Department of Education (ADE); Victor Hudenko, Catholic Charities Community Services, Inc.; Cassandra Larsen, Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GCYF) and Mark Holleran, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS).

Staff Present:

Karia Basta, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH); Lynn Larson, Judith Fritsch, Donna Bleyle, Margaret Kilman, Jaime Shapiro and Priscilla Cruz, Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES).

Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Traylor called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Melanie Starns filled in for Sharon Sergent (Alternate) for Co-Chair Clarence H. Carter.

Approval of the Minutes

Acting Co-Chair Melanie Starns called for a motion to approve the Tuesday, March 20, 2012 meeting minutes. The motion was made by Karen Hellman of ADC and was seconded by Brian Spicker of VSUW. The motion passed and was approved by the Commissioners in attendance.

Presentation on Arizona 211

Catherine Dunning CEO of Community Information Referral Services (CIR) gave an informative presentation about Arizona 211, which is an accredited human services resource call center providing statewide community referral information for health and human services programs. The mission of Arizona 211 is to be the key source of integrated information that brings people and services together in the State of Arizona. An item of concern shared by Ms. Dunning is ensuring the ongoing

sustainability of Arizona 211. Commissioner Trailor invited ACHH commission members to get involved in helping find funding for Arizona 211 and the suggestion was supported by the members present.

Committee Reports

Housing Committee: Commissioner Trailor reported that they have narrowed down the questions to be asked related to housing types to be utilized and populations to be served. This will allow for the identification of the most appropriate housing type an individual or family might be qualified for. This information will then be utilized in the development of the resource database tool for providers/case managers. The first draft of this database resource tool is scheduled to roll out within the next sixty (60) days.

Homeless Services Committee: Commissioner Newsom reported that this committee has narrowed down the housing assessment barrier tool to two different versions which are now being piloted. Of the two tools being piloted they have found that the Hamilton Families (HAM) tool is usable but it is definitely geared for the San Francisco area and needs to be reformatted in order to be utilized in Arizona. Currently, Commissioner Newsom is looking for some free technical services/assistance or a funding source, including HUD, to obtain the technical assistance needed to adjust the Hamilton Families tool to fit the needs of Arizona. It was suggested that the Committee connect with Arizona State University and the MAG Continuum of Care to request technical assistance.

Data Management Committee: Commissioner Williams reported that this committee has not had great success in collecting the data so far. It was agreed that as a first step they need to collect all of the continuum data in one place for review. Commissioner Williams is going to connect with Catherine Dunning of CIR to discuss the proper data identification. It was suggested that Commissioner Williams also utilize Margaret Kilman on his team to assist in obtaining the required information.

Studies and Survey Committee: Commissioner Spicker reported that he would like to thank to all who are working hard on the survey endeavor, Kenneth McKinley from Open End, Karia Basta (ADOH), Margaret Kilman (DES), Donna Bleyle (DES), Sean Price (ADVS) and Ted Williams (ABC). The survey packet containing the data necessary to perform the surveys has been developed. The packet includes instructions for the area managers, training for the survey leads, training for the surveyors and the methodology. Karia Basta will begin training some of the survey leads in Southeastern Arizona on June 4th and 5th, with the actual survey starting there on June 25th. Maricopa County and Pima County are aiming to conduct the survey in late July or early August. The goal is to survey approximately 2,030 homeless individuals on the streets and in emergency shelters by the end of August, and have the compiled data entered into a database by September. This is all to facilitate sufficient time to conduct an analysis so that information may be available for presentation at the annual Homeless Conference in October. Commissioner Spicker announced that he needs some help with the provision of incentives, i.e.: McDonald's certificates, toiletries or gift cards.

Announcements

Acting Co-Chair Starns issued a call to Commission members for any announcements.

1. Commissioner Spicker announced that the United Way is convening a workshop with family homeless providers to start looking at systems, barriers and opportunities that can be addressed through supportive housing.
2. Co-Chair Trailor reminded the group that the Arizona Housing Forum will be held in Tucson and is scheduled for October 2-4 this year. As of July 1st the Mayor of the City of Phoenix will have a homeless policy advisor working in his office.
3. Commissioner Thornton reported that Sierra Vista is receiving their first ever rehab grant. She also concerns about the local Community Action Agency, SEACAP who has reduced their hours at their Bisbee office which will create a problem in the Sierra Vista area. DES is aware of the situation and is addressing the issue.

Future Agenda Items

Co-Chair Trailor issued a call for future agenda items and Donna Bleyle stated that she would like to try to have Mayor Stanton of Phoenix, and Mayor Rothschild of Tucson, at our September meeting. Commissioner Trailor suggested that we invite Barbara Poppe to come and speak at a future meeting, possibly in July.

Call to the Public

Co-Chair Trailor issued a call to the public. Member of the public, Dick Geasland, shared the results of the pilot housing project called Housing Arizona Youth Project (HAYP) which was aimed at ending the homelessness of Arizona youths ages 18 to 25. In two years they have served about 375 youths, age 18-25. The agency providers wanted to share with the members of ACHH the impact this pilot program has made and can continue to make on helping Arizona's homeless youth gain self-sufficiency.

Next Meeting

The next ACHH meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 17, 2012.

Adjourn

Co-Chair Trailor called for the meeting to be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.